# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION

TIMOTHY JACKSON,	§	
Plaintiff,	§	
	§	
V.	§	Civil Action No. 4:21-mc-00008
	§	
LAURA WRIGHT, et. al.,	§	
Defendants.	§	

## MOVANTS' OPPOSED MOTION TO QUASH SUBPOENAS AND MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER

Pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 45 and 26(c), non-party movants Benjamin Brand, Jennifer Cowley, Jincheng Du, Francisco Guzman, John Ishiyama, Matthew Lemberger-Truelove, and Jennifer Wallach (collectively "Movants"), file this Opposed Motion to Quash Subpoenas and Motion for Protective Order.

Movants are seven officials of the University of North Texas (UNT). Despite the fact that the underlying case is pending in the Eastern District of Texas, Sherman Division (the "Issuing Court"), Plaintiff had issued subpoenas for Movants to produce documents in Fort Worth—where no party is located, no Movant is located, and no counsel in this litigation is located. That choice by Jackson now requires that this motion be filed in the Northern District of Texas instead of in the court where the litigation is already pending. *See* Fed. R. Civ. Pro. 45(d)(3).

### **GROUNDS FOR MOTION**

As explained further in the accompanying brief, not only does Jackson's choice of Fort Worth as the compliance location for the subpoenas result in an unnecessary waste of resources—

both that of the parties' and of this Court's—but the subpoenas themselves subject Movants to an undue burden because sovereign immunity and Jackson's lack of standing prevent jurisdiction over the issuance of the subpoenas in the first place. Moreover, in subpoenaing documents from UNT officials that duplicate requests Jackson has already made to the parties themselves, Jackson inflicts an undue burden on Movants. Further, Jackson requests are overly broad, not reasonably limited in time and scope and unduly burdensome. Finally, the requests seek documents that are privileged.

#### **CONCLUSION**

For the foregoing reasons, Movants respectfully request that the Court quash the subpoenas, and enter a protective order to prevent Movants from having to comply with the subpoenas.

Respectfully submitted,

KEN PAXTON Attorney General of Texas

BRENT WEBSTER First Assistant Attorney General

GRANT DORFMAN
Deputy First Assistant Attorney General

SHAWN COWLES
Deputy Attorney General for Civil Litigation

THOMAS A. ALBRIGHT Chief, General Litigation Division

/s/ Matthew Bohuslav MATTHEW BOHUSLAV Texas Bar No. 24069395 Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General P.O. Box 12548, Capitol Station Austin, Texas 78711-2548 Phone: 512-463-2120 Fax: 512-320-0667

matthew.bohuslav@oag.texas.gov

Attorneys for Defendants

## **CERTIFICATE OF CONFERENCE**

I certify that on May 19, 2021, I conferred with Plaintiff's counsel, Michael Allen, regarding the substance of this motion who indicated that Plaintiff was opposed to the relief requested in this motion.

/s/ Matthew Bohuslav MATTHEW BOHUSLAV Assistant Attorney General

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 26th day of May, 2021, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system, which automatically provided notice to the following CM/ECF participants:

Jonathan F. Mitchell Mitchell Law, PLLC 111 Congress Avenue, Suite 400 Austin, Texas 78701 jonathan@mitchell.law

Michael Thad Allen, Esq. Allen Law, LLC PO BOX 404 Quaker Hill, CT 06375 m.allen@allen-lawfirm.com Attorneys for Plaintiff

> /s/ Matthew Bohuslav MATTHEW BOHUSLAV Assistant Attorney General